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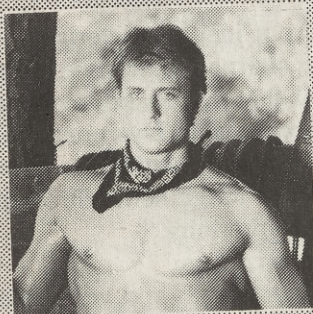
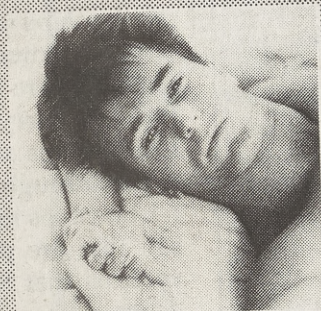
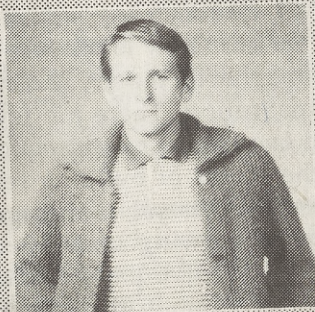
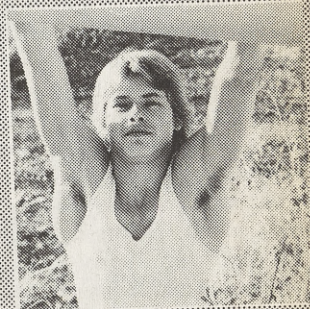
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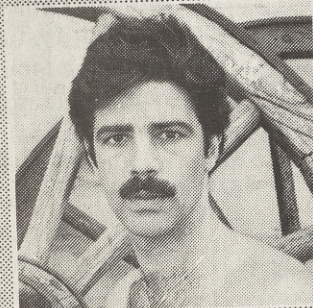
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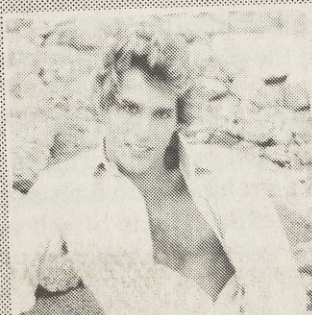
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A New Look at
RELATIONSHIPS



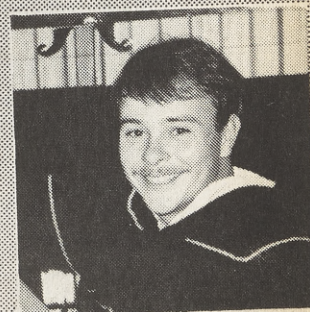
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New...
RAMBLING
OF NOTE



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PATLAR

Voice of Gay America
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RELATIONSHIPS

by D. Preston Dillon
psychotherapist

Have you ever wondered why some relationships work so well, seem to run smoothly and radiate genuine happiness to others? Their intimacy and connection creates such a bond that it seems to nest the couple in a state safe cocoon of love and respect. At the same time, the relationship is open and responsive to friends. The couple speaks highly of each other unprompted by others. There is a strength in each that is mirrored in their interdependence and mutual support. Yet neither seems to have given up any part of their esteem for such a treasured love. It is passionate, respectful, and authentic.

Then there are other relationships which seem to embody struggle, pain, and the constant tearing down of each partner. Love dies and is replaced by desperate clinging, burning jealousy, deceit, or hate. Fear and tension become the norm. The relationship has become emotionally and/or physically abusive, and the couple is caught in a cycle of confusion, illusion, and despair.

Using the excellent concepts from *Adult Children of Alcoholics*, *Codependency* and *Positive Intimacy*, this month we take a look at the characteristics of functional and dysfunctional relationships. Next month we'll look at concrete steps to developing the healthy relationships we all want.

As children, we learn how to relate to others from a dysfunctional society where homophobia, racism, sexism, ageism, and classism run through every institution. There are few role models for healthy relationships and even fewer opportunities for finding safe places to move through the stages of building relationships. Dysfunctional relationships reflect the betrayal, abandonment, dishonesty, and loss of self that are part of growing up in an alienating society. Family systems that have addictive patterns (addiction to work, alcohol, drugs, power, people) set up inadequate and abusive situations which are then carried out to adult relationships.

But dysfunctional ways of relating are not just characteristic of addictive families. Expressing intimacy in an alternative lifestyle often requires adapting to oppression and denial that can make loving a dysfunctional prison rather than a joyous expression. Dysfunctional relationships reflect the wounds inflicted by society which are then projected onto the lover. We reinforce society's judgements through abusive rules, shame, guilt, and blame in the community.

Dysfunctional relationships can be characterized as:

1. An isolated, closed system--there are few friends and very little support (*No one could possibly understand*).
2. Where communication is very difficult--shaming, showing disdain, blaming the other, guilt trips (*If I can't be heard, you can't be either*).
3. Have "no-talk rules" that apply to forbidden subjects or people (*if we avoid this, it will go away*.) This is an unspoken agreement to avoid issues, and a prohibition to discuss issues with others.
4. Unrealistic expectations of self and other takes the form of magical thinking (*You're what makes my life better and I don't have to change*).
5. Intentional dishonesty and denial (lack of trust based on fear and hurt).
6. Abusive fighting styles where attacking, silence, or manipulation is the norm (crazy-making, ulterior motives and

agendas).

7. Instant gratification--compulsive possession and obsessive neediness (*Please me now, on demand, without regard for your needs*).

8. The couple may mirror each other and shift back and forth between painful bouts. Overwhelmed by feelings of inadequacy and powerlessness they take on the war tactics of the other. Cynicism, arrogance, distancing, self-centeredness, judgementalism, control, and trashing are shifted to hopelessness, neediness, irresponsibility, self-deprecation, and excessive dependency. A dysfunctional relationship is an intensely painful cycle of negativity, defensiveness and the illusion of control. It may also be the only known way to avoid the inner rage, fear, loneliness, or depression that is too awful to face alone.

Functional relationships are an extension of self love. They require patience, understanding, nurturance, and openness to difference. Characteristics of a functional relationship include:

1. An open system--friends from both sides are sought that are supportive and included in activities.

2. Communication that is constant--open, patient listening on both sides. Respectful feedback is given and received. Appreciation is the norm.

3. Realistic expectations of self and other are continuously reevaluated, checked out, and modified by positive feedback. Care is given to meet the needs of self and other.

4. Boundaries that are clear and respected. Each individual has their own space, ways of doing things, and views that are unique and contribute to their identity. Change occurs when each is ready. There is no attempt to change the other through manipulation, control, or threats.

5. Honestly that is built on a trust that is continuously renewed.

6. Cooperation as the goal. It is voluntary and flows freely. Disagreement is allowed by both partners without attack or manipulation. Feedback is sought by each for the purpose of making the relationship better. Compromise is common but not at the expense of either.

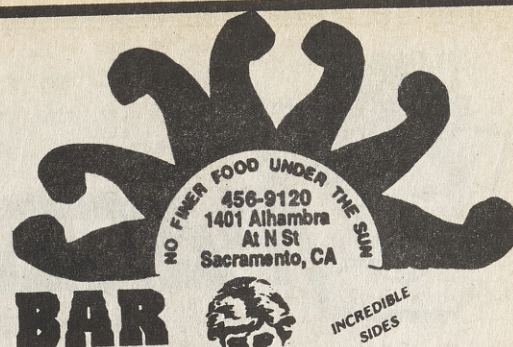
7. Comfort and love which are given without demands. Freedom is felt by both partners who seek to empower the other without possessing or controlling them.

8. Mediation when the couple is unable to handle issues, or when the relationship seems out of balance.

Few individuals have had the good fortune of coming from family systems that are loving and supportive. They learned positive, fulfilling ways of relating from early childhood. The rest of us have to learn the skills for more healthy relating. This is not an overnight task. Along the way we have to face the ego many times and reexamine our own responsibility for making it work or not. Along the way we get hurt and hurt others. But if we learn from our experiences, each experience will bring us closer to the truth of who we are and what we have to change.

If this sounds like an impossible challenge, don't give up hope! There are some guidelines for moving from unhealthy, dysfunctional relating to more whole ways of loving. Next month we'll explore these. Until then . . . keep loving.

D. Preston Dillon is a feminist psychotherapist working with both men and women in private practice--in groups, with individuals, or with couples. She is an educator at Leeward Community College.



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IN MY OPINION

by Mel Dahl

I never thought that I would use my column to do a book review, but I have just finished perhaps an incredibly moving book. Peter Irons' *The Courage of Their Convictions* (The Free Press 1988) ought to be read by everyone, gay or straight, who believes there are some parts of one's life not

open to the moralizing and scrutiny of other people.

The book is the story of individuals who believed in something so strongly that they took it to the Supreme Court. Written by an attorney who spent part of the Vietnam era in a federal prison for refusing to be part of an unjust war, it consists of fascinating stories of real people who did what they thought was right at great expense to themselves.

Lillian Gobitis was a Pennsylvania teenager who was expelled from public school for refusing to recite a flag salute that offended her religious beliefs. Mary Beth Tinker was an Iowa schoolgirl who was disciplined for wearing a black armband to school to protest the Vietnam War. Barbara Elfbrandt was a public school teacher in Arizona who taught without pay because the law forbade paying teachers who refused to sign McCarthy era loyalty oaths, and such an oath violated Mrs. Elfbrandt's Quaker beliefs. Michael Hardwick was a homosexual in Atlanta into whose bedroom the police burst one day to arrest him for violating a sodomy statute.

There is good news and bad news. On the one hand, one can no longer be expelled from school for refusing to say words one considers offensive, and public school teachers can no longer be economically punished for refusing to violate their deeply held religious beliefs. There is also bad news: the State of Georgia can still send people to prison for having sex with an orifice not government approved. But that is not the point.

Two things struck me as I read *The Courage of Their Convictions*. One was the incredible amount of distance we have travelled. There is the story of a black family to whose home the police came one morning with eviction orders.

Blacks were not allowed to live in that neighborhood. They are now, thanks to the courage of a stubborn black family that refused to budge. Time was when the punishment for atheism was forced induction into the army; the Daniel Seeger case changed that. Dan Seeger isn't even an atheist; he simply believes that his faith is nobody else's darned business and he refused to discuss the matter with government officials.

The second thing that struck me about the book was the power of ordinary people to halt injustice by refusing to go along with it. None of the characters in these dramas was rich or famous or particularly brilliant; they were all ordinary people with an extraordinary sense of right and wrong. Susan Epperson was just a high school biology teacher in Little Rock, Arkansas who found herself unable to teach properly due to a state law which forbade the teaching of evolution. Elmer Gertz was an attorney in Chicago who decided he would not allow the John Birch Society to libel him and get away with it. Ishmael Jaffree was a father in Mobile, Alabama who decided his children were not going to public schools to be taught religion. Thanks to their willingness to fight, Arkansas teachers can now teach science, the John Birch Society has pretty much folded, and Ishmael Jaffree's children learn religion at home instead of at school.

Some of the battles described in the book are not over. Lloyd Barenblatt was sentenced to prison for refusing to discuss his political views with the House Un-American Activities Committee; the Supreme Court upheld the conviction and sentence. The Committee has since been abolished, but the precedent of sending Americans to jail for not disclosing their political beliefs remains on the books. Michael Hardwick lost in his bid to have sodomy statutes stricken from the statute books; his case sparked a massive grass roots effort to repeal those laws, an effort which will almost certainly be successful someday.

Finally, this book is our story; the story of how a nation is slowly evolving. A century ago many of these cases would not even have been brought; that they have not only been brought, but a substantial number won, speaks volumes about the progress we as a nation have made toward tolerance and respect for individual rights.

Yes, we still have a long way to go in the struggle for justice, but we're closer than we were when we started, thanks to a handful of courageous people who stubbornly refused to cede their birthrights to the state. *The Courage of Their Convictions* is their story, but it is our story too.



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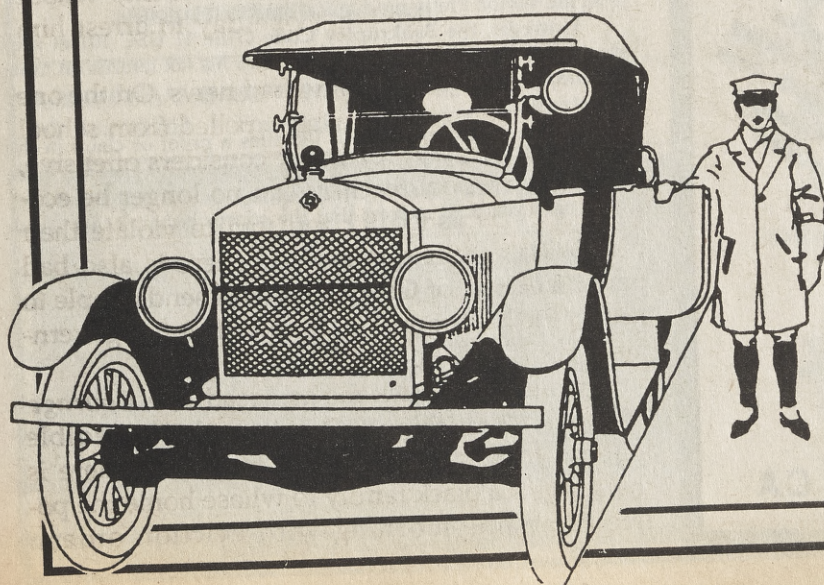
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HORNER'S CORNER

by Lee Horner

It's hard to believe that the United States had no income tax (or social security tax, for that matter) until the earlier part of this century. Even more amazing is how both systems have gotten totally out of hand.

When social security first started, it was just a \$1 per month donation to help the "old folks." Now look at it... a bureaucratic nightmare that spends money faster than my ex-wife (and is just about as grateful).

IRS is even worse. Some of their revenue agents, who I'm sure, are well meaning nice people, tend to get carried away with their bottomless pit of authority at times when dealing with us tax payers, without whom they would be out of a job.

Funny how they don't look at things like that. But what's funnier yet (to me) is how these people can legally be stopped from collecting otherwise legitimate income taxes.

Let me say that I am not an advocate of tax dodging or one of those misguided folks that says it's constitutionally illegal for IRS to collect taxes--the tax dodges don't work as a rule and the constitutional advocates for non-payment of income taxes seem to wind up in jail.

What we are addressing today is the case of a taxpayer who filed a return on time, owed income taxes but didn't pay them, and finds himself unable to make a deal with an IRS revenue agent for monthly payments, with the agent about to attach the taxpayer's wages.

When IRS attaches your wages, by the way, they zap ya good! They let you pay your federal and state withholding, then they grab the rest. Ouch!!

What is not common knowledge however is how IRS can be forced to accept monthly payments, even in the face of an outstanding wage levy, and how some taxes can be eliminated altogether.

The solution in this case is a Chapter 13 bankruptcy. This proceeding is available to anyone with regular income who owes less than \$100,000 in unsecured debts and less than \$350,000 in secured debts.

The debtor/taxpayer files a Chapter 13 petition which immediately stays attachments and collection activity by all creditors, including IRS. The debtor proposes to the court a program for repayment of the creditors over a three to five year period.

A court appointed trustee receives and disburses the funds from the debtor. Pretty mechanical stuff to this point.

However, the Bankruptcy Code (Title 11 USC 101 et seq) specifically provides that if a debtor files his tax returns on time, any income taxes older than three years may be discharged, that is, not repaid!

In our instant example, if IRS files a proof of claim in the Chapter 13 proceeding demanding payment for income taxes more than three years old, the debtor may object to the claim for these old taxes and request that the court discharge them altogether.

Many times we have "split dollar" cases where we object to part of a claim and agree to pay the other part. Such is the case with income taxes.

Our office has actually stopped IRS from levying on business assets by filing Chapter 13 proceedings for clients.

So next time someone tells you that you can't beat IRS, don't believe it. You can with Chapter 13 bankruptcy. This is a legitimate federal court proceeding available in all states, and for someone who is experiencing financial problems, it can be a real lifesaver.

Next month--evictions in California--from a landlord's perspective

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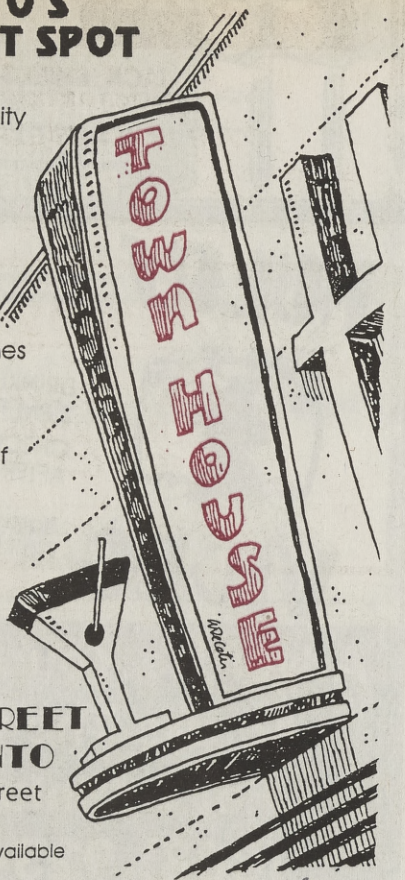
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WORDS FROM HOME

by Lynda J. Foro

Some of us think literally and that wears us out. By interpreting each spoken word in a literal sense, we cause ourselves extra work, if not mental fatigue. I am talking about an active listener who pays attention to what he hears.

How many times can we ask ourselves if we know, when someone says "you know?" in every breath? Some listeners actually make a reflexive check to determine if they do know. The listener tires of this game, and the speaker risks "listener drop-out." The abuse of "you know?" (or "yunno?" in familiar speech) is no substitute for a limited vocabulary. This over-used phrase signals the verbal inadequacies of the speaker, as the listener soon realizes. A possible listener cure-all is to answer "Yes, I do know" or "No, I don't know" each time.

Another listener challenge is the speaker who asks "All right?" repeatedly. While "all right?" has its place, recent usage finds it inappropriately added to many conversations. "All right?" often is found midway in story telling or narrative summaries. Since the speaker and listener generally have a common level of comprehension, the affirmation is unnecessary.

An interesting use of "all right?" occurs in moments of discord. In a recent encounter, an individual, whom I phoned to clarify some procedures, put "All right?" to use. Specifically he informed me that he was doing me a favor, all right?" Big mistake: A) This was no favor, and B) it wasn't right. I doubt that he thought much of his question, but he certainly remembers my answer to his careless query.

The literal listener finds much pleasure in colorful speech. A detached phrase can liven any conversation. The speaker will find a more lasting audience when he culls his phrases, and removes the burden of a knowledge check ("you know?") or a need for agreement ("all right?") from his speech.

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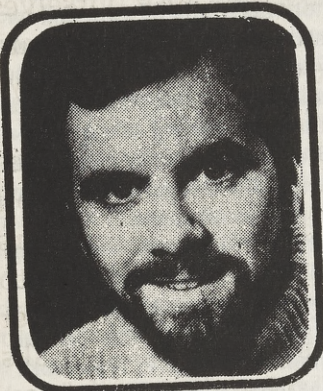
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THE NEXT WAVE

by Douglas N. Lewis

Lost Without Space

Ever since I moved to the hustle and bustle of New



York City from the yawning mountains and teeming greenery of south-western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, I have had the nagging intuition that men are not made, indeed are not even well-suited, to live in large urban environments. There are the obvious reasons for believing this: exploding, vicious crime; air, water and ground pollu-

tion on a mindlessly massive and destructive scale; deafening, cacophonous noise; and the ever-present visibility and lust for greed. We, the citizens of Big City U.S.A., are mired in our own waste and tired of the face of cynicism that seems to front all and everything around us. We have become concentrated breeding grounds for epidemic annihilation and contagious neuroses. But there are other, more basic, reasons why I think crammed, crowded cities are harmful to people. Reasons that lurk in the shadows behind the outward symptoms, actions and thoughts of mankind. Reasons that are inherently invisible to the human spirit, that make their presence apparent, however, seeming to bubble up from the depths of our souls and to take on the guise of society's many ills

The most basic reason why I believe men do not belong in cities is the obvious (and yet innately spiritual) difference between a man-made maze of urban hardness and an intrinsically developing, free-flowing natural environment. Natural locales are made of the same stuff we are made of: air (and all its complementary weathers and microbes), water (and its teeming world of beneficial micro-organisms and mineral) and the richness and diversity of the earth. In a natural setting everything is joined together in an evolving ecosystem that constantly renews itself and its wealth for its inhabitants. Cities do just the opposite. Cities are made of walls, divisions and partitions and have to be re-built and re-invented on a particular timetable. Cities are made up on concrete, steel and the myriad ways men have found to divide themselves. When you stand on the street, you're standing on something meant to keep you from the ground.

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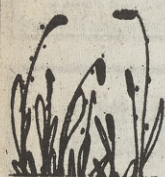
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I grew up on a farm and it never occurred to me to be bored, to not have anything to do or the space to do it in. My activities were only limited by my imagination. One of the most striking things that came out of the Central Park rape and attack of the innocent jogger in New York was the youths' declaration that they attacked her because they had "nothing to do." I see more energy being expended in urban environments that is based on boredom and the crushed spirits of the oppressed than I could have ever dreamed of in a rural environment. There is freedom in spacious places. There is time in open spaces. There is more of a desire to reach out, to engage the people who you rarely come across. People seem to take the time to know each other, to care for each other more fully in a rural environment. After all, there are simply fewer people to know and to count on.

I'm not trying to say that there is no disease, crime or moral uncertainty to rural life. I am trying to say that the simplicity and clarity of living with and not against nature brings about its own sense of peace and nurturance. People will go out of their way for each other and treat each other with respect and concern if not constantly surrounded by a flood of brutalized strangers. And the emphasis in big cities is always on the brutality, the shocking and the perverse, giving the impression that people are vicious, degenerate and greedy in general. (Unfortunately, television and the mass media have brought the restlessness and illusion of "the good life" (read: material amassment, need for speed, lack of enduring morality, the ease of youthful profligacy and the phantom happiness of the vapid [real urban blight?] to even the most pastoral of settings—the country made city through mass communication.) Aggression and the darker sides of human nature are always going to be there. But even the most docile of animals will turn vicious when threatened, and city life is a study in threatening experience. That's why so many people choose to deal with the frustration of heavy traffic and long commutes rather than bringing up their families and residing in the big city. We tend to mirror our surroundings. Our surroundings tend to mirror us. Trouble breeds where there is no imagination. Violence explodes where there is no peace of spirit. Hatred is propagated where there is no respect for life. And one thing is for certain: a person who makes their life and living in cooperation with the earth has a definite respect for the mutability and omnipotence of nature and the lives of those who affect his. A person who is constantly surrounded by the goodness and bounty of nature can't help but notice the precarious balance and fullness of life in their surround-

ings.

I used to be able to walk out of my front door in Morgantown, West Virginia and see for twenty or thirty miles, through clear skies towards the Blue Ridge Mountains. There was something amazingly calming and secure in that view. Here in New York City, I walk out of my building and I see maybe thirty or forty feet in front of me, and that view is fraught with the dangers of crack dealers, the homeless, enough grime to completely coat Manhattan and every kind of pollution known to man. The tendency is to want to implode, to squash yourself into too small a space for your spiritual wings to be able to stretch and fly. Walking down the street in New York, I'm constantly accosted by the man-made sounds and constructions of an egocentric, morally blind and fast-paced society. Walking in a forest the sounds flow over you, through you, creating a kind of moral and spiritual balm to your soul.

While there are many obvious reasons why urban environments are suffocating and numbing, the spiritual straight-jacketing brought on by cities has never been fully studied or documented. I think that once this is scrutinized, we will see that the mass exodus from rural to urban living has been more damaging than any of us have heretofore realized. It's almost a necessity for men to separate themselves from a city's hustle and bustle in order to defend themselves against the "outside." Hopefully, we will be more mindful of how divisive men have become and can begin to build environments that do not exclude the good earth and each other, but will include all the positive aspects of the country and the city. Maybe then the downward spiral of our moral and spiritual decline in metropolitan areas can be stopped and a new day of sharing, nurturance and prosperity will begin.



RALPH
and there is more...

The note in Patlar soliciting writing on "Senior Issues" let me realize that now that I have achieved the completion of seven decades just might make it appropriate for me to say a few words as a "Senior!"

I recall that as a young child, when my grandmother was in her seventies, I had said to her: "But, Grandma, I'll never get old like you!" Little could I have realized at that age that I would indeed reach seventy. I also asked her if I

might see us put a man on the moon, and she said that that could not happen in this century, so then I told her that I would live to the year 2000 so I could see that!

As is the case with predictions, some come to pass, some do not. We put men on the moon long before the year 2000, and I have indeed reached seventy, so the case could be made that these predictions did not come to pass. Or that they did! The first--a wild dream in the 1920s--was manifest sooner than predicted! The second--my reaching the age of my grandmother at that time--happened in the course of human events. And yet my experience of aging has been (and continues to be) not a matter of getting frail and remembering the "good old days," but rather a kind of growth or increase in what, for lack of a better term, I'd call wisdom.



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In other cultures, and particularly in the Far East, old age is venerated and respected. Even people quite young look to the elders as sources of awareness and insight not yet given to them. Indeed, many gay men have learned that this is true even in terms of sexual attraction and interest, for older men are actually sought out as preferred friends by young men. (So one may plan to move to Indonesia for retirement!)

But what do I mean by continuing growth in wisdom?

Some years ago I did a workshop with Joseph Chilton Pierce, best known, perhaps, as author of *The Crack in the Cosmic Egg*, and in discussing and diagramming the various curves of growth, he noted that physical growth and intelligence as measured by standardized tests and various other "indicators" display a rise, and then, at some point in the growth process begin to slow, tapering off as the curve turns downward.

"However," he said, "there is another curve that we might plot—a curve which I would call 'wisdom,' and that curve goes like this:"

He then drew a curve on the blackboard that ascended slowly, but gradually turned up and up—and then at the point on the chart previously indicated as death, he said, as he continued upward with his chalk:

"And this curve continues upward and does not stop the point of physical death."

I had not thought of that for some time, but somehow my own arriving at seventy led me back to that. And, also, I've been doing some reading on death recently, and at the same time looking with clearer vision at the fact that my own demise is coming. Oh, not tomorrow, I would think, or even in the next year or two. There is still too much more that I intend to do! But, none the less, it is coming for me as it does for each of us. And, indeed, just to think of that, and even to look forward to that, is comforting and assuring.

For one thing I am as certain of as one can be without the direct experience that death is not an ending, but simply a part of the process of being born and living and dying in a *physical body*. There is a "more" that transcends the physical and the evidence for that is considerable.

"Oh," you may say, "that's an irresponsible statement! There's no proof whatsoever that there is life after death!"

May I gently and as politely as I can say that I must disagree! Certainly there is "life" beyond the "body," as Robert Monroe solidly assures us in *Journeys out of the Body*. He is only one of many who have had this experience, and, like Shirley MacClain, is still around to tell us about it.

Raymond Moody has documented countless cases of near-death experiences in which people have been found dead, later to be revived; and the common elements of such experience certainly seem to indicate that physical death does not mean death of the self and of individual identity.

Both Monroe's book and Moody's have been followed by others with further evidence of the fact that somehow who we really are is something more than a body and does not "die."

But even more interesting, and particularly so for me, is the fact that increasing numbers of people are "channeling"—bringing through them communication from entities who exist on some other level, or on the "astral plane," and are able to communicate with the rest of us, still situ-

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and are able to communicate with the rest of us, still situated in bodies about these realms beyond the simply physical. Every one of these is not only strongly suggestive evidence that there is life beyond what we think of as death, but without exception they assure anyone who is willing to listen that each of us will arrive in that dimension once we undergo the experience of physical dying. So, what is true for me, aged seventy? Well, I'm in excellent physical health. I do more work now in any day than at any earlier point in my life. I enjoy food, exercise, thinking/writing, sex, music . . . and most of all, people. I think that indeed I have not "gotten old like grandmother." I think that, largely free of guilt (thanks to many years work with *A Course in Miracles* I am free as well in body and in spirit.) And, as Joseph Chilton Pierce's chart hinted, I am certainly making discoveries and having adventures that I would never have dreamed I could have at twenty-five, or even at fifty! And, to me it is a given, not a speculation, that the curve of wisdom is continuing to accelerate upward and that I can take joy in the fact that that will never stop! There is always more beyond wherever I am at this moment, or at any moment."

"Come, grow old with me, the best is yet to be!" I can assure you of that.

[Ralph's column is a regular feature of Patlar. He may be contacted at PO Box 556, Sussex, NJ 07461 or (201) 875-4710.]

HOROSCOPES

by Dr. Pat Larr

CANCER (Jun 21-JUL 22): A heat wave mid-month gets your temperature rising, and so does a blue-eyed brunette. Enjoy!

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): You'll be seeing fireworks on the 4th, and you won't even have to leave your bedroom to do it! Enjoy!

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): That special someone still making you play a waiting game? Hang in there till month's end when sparks fly.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): An aggravating EX pushes all the right buttons mid-month. Don't let this turkey get you down. Have you considered cyanide?

SCORPIO (OCT 23-NOV 21): There's a bad moon rising month's end. Get to the bottom of a sticky problem or you'll be the butt of every joke.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22-Dec 21): Does a washboard stomach sound attractive to you? Don't get your hopes up. This month it's strictly Speed Queen times.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): A delivery man has a heavy load to discharge. Do you accept rear deliveries or will you take it up front?

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): A gift you make yourself pleases the birthday boy in your life. He'll be so pleased he may even show you his birthday suit.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): That special someone takes you on a long, hard ride mid-month. And you didn't think you were going to have fun on your vacation.

ARIES (MAR 21-APR 19): That firecracker of a lover you've got explodes on the 4th. This month you'll find out why he keeps cumming back for more.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): A short vacation does wonders for your love life. You won't even need a bed with magic fingers.

GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): A day at the beach gives you a chance to size up those speedos. A blond surfer-type longs to see your tan lines.

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RAMBLINGS OF NOTE . . .

by Carl/Anne

As I sat down at this typewriter to compose my first column, I realized that I had a problem. No, actually I had two related problems. First, to introduce this column and make it interesting; and second, to introduce myself.

The column is a good place to start. The title. According to the Oxford American Dictionary: 1) Rambling--Speaking or writing disconnectedly, wandering from one subject to another; and 2) Note--(a) A significant sound or indication of feelings (b) Eminence, distinction (c) Notice, attention. Therefore, "Ramblings of Note . . ." will not have any one subject or theme, but rather each column will comment on a suitable or opportune subject either of note or trivial, but definitely of interest.

Next, and a little more difficult, to introduce myself. Most people might begin with, "I am John Doe, I was born on ___, at ___, " which would be followed by an autobiography. In my case it is not so simple. I am a person of duality; more correctly, I am two totally different people born twenty-four years apart.

The first, Carl, was born in 1931 in Vienna, Austria. Came to the US, by way of London, in 1939. Was raised in Chicago and got his education at the universities of Wisconsin, Utah and Arizona. Served in both the Navy and Air Force as a journalist, public relation officer and director of the resident theater company.

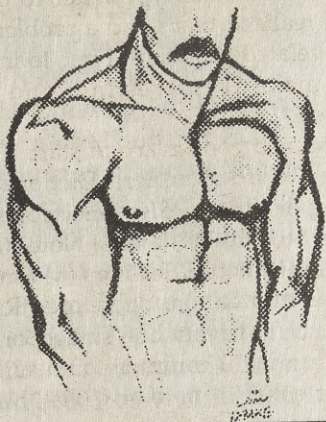
The second, Anne, "arrived" with Carl but would have to wait twenty-four years to be born. She made herself known almost at once but was repressed and even denied. On rare occasion she was allowed to "come out" for short periods of time. In 1956, while still in the Navy, Carl gave "birth" to her as a main character in a musical comedy. It wasn't until three years later that not only her existence was acknowledged, but that she was recognized as the reality and Carl re-assigned as the product of imagination.

Out of necessity the pretence had to be carried on. Not until eight years ago was Anne finally to come into existence in her own right. Now both exist and are an integral part of my life and work. In the months ahead, depending on the subject and the point of view, "Ramblings . . ." will "by line" Carl, Anne or Carl/Anne.

The uniqueness of "Ramblings of Note . . ." will be not that it will be my column but that it needs to be your column. I shall look to you, our readers, for subjects and topics of interest and importance to you as individuals and all of us within the Gay Community and the Human Community of which we are all a part. Occasionally "Ramblings . . ." may take on the shape of an advice column, fashion tips, kitchen treasures or performance review depending on current incidents and events and your desires, thoughts, wishes and whims.

I am looking forward to hearing from you; feel free to write me c/o Patlar. Until next time, "May the Curtain go up on your most perfect day!"

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Next month's issue will feature Michael Gottlieb, M.D., immunologist and pioneering physician in the AIDS epidemic, in *Conversations With Long Term Survivors of AIDS*.

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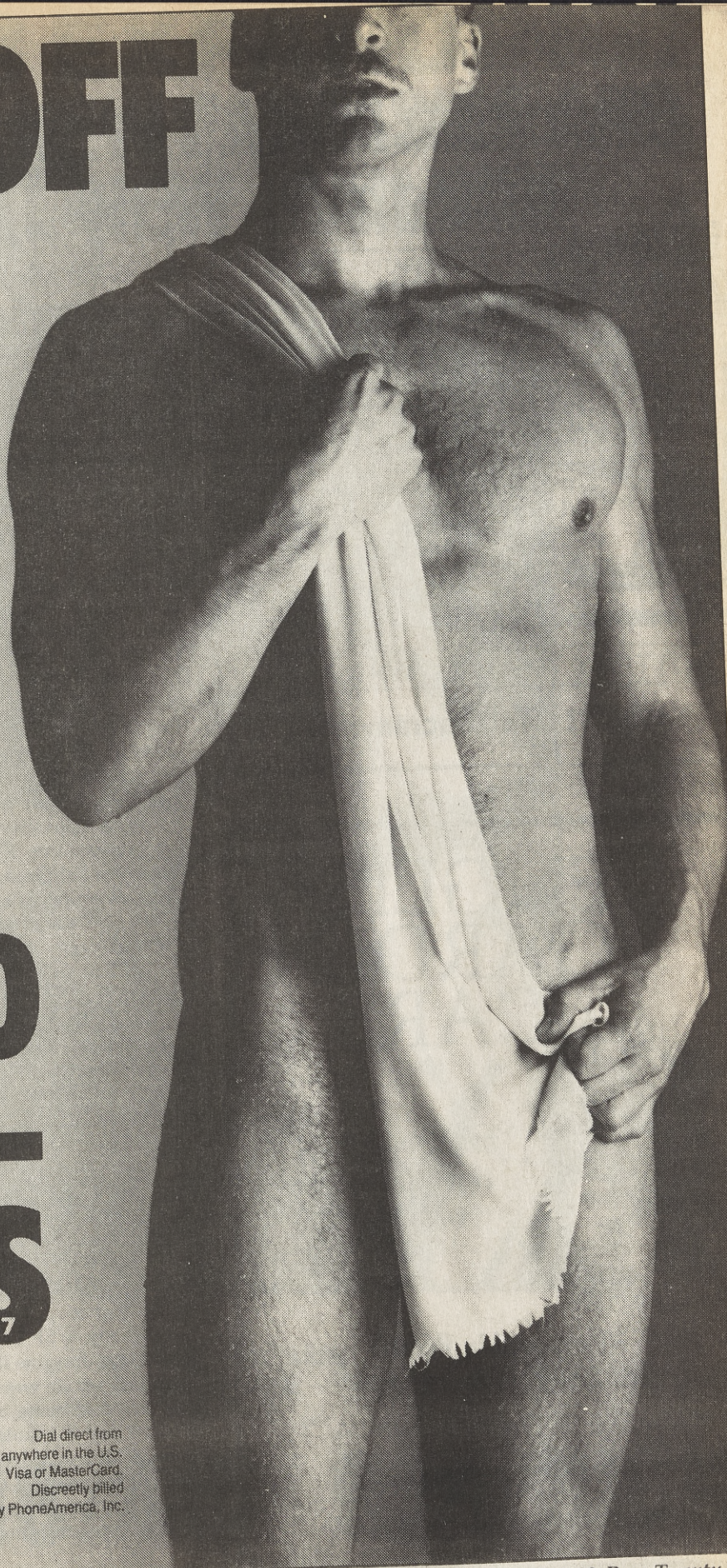
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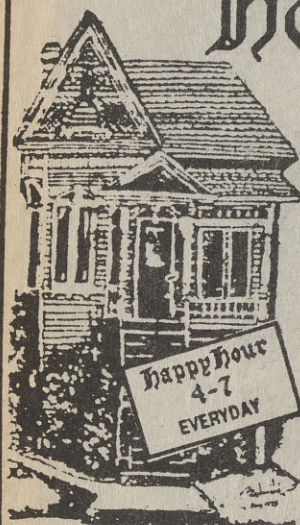
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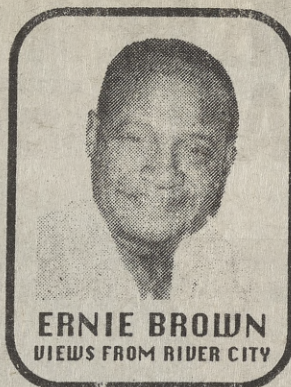
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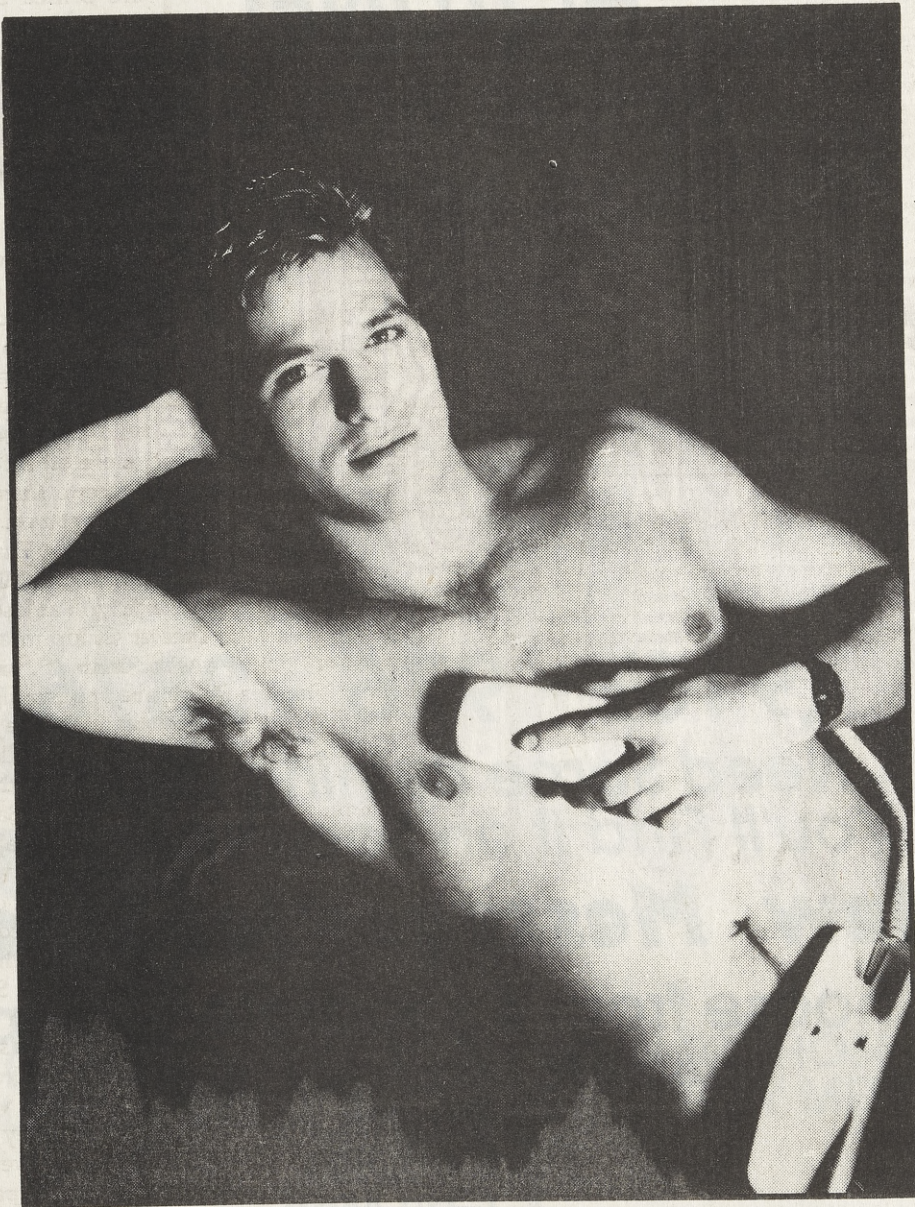


ERNIE BROWN
VIEWS FROM RIVER CITY

June 1989 will probably be a month that we will long remember. Stonewall's Twentieth Anniversary. A generation of pride. Throughout the entire United States, gay men and women celebrated the efforts in the struggle for liberation. And you know what? It's working. However, we still have a long way to go. We in Sacramento on June

17th did our own celebration in the form of a fair, the Lambda Freedom Fair. And what a fair it was. Music, dancing, singing, food, theater. We had it all. The remarkable thing about the fair was the "coming together" of gay men and lesbians, entire families all in harmony. I did not hear one discouraging word. Congrats to Jerry Sloan (Advisor) and to the entire 1989 Lambda Fair Committee for a job well done. I understand that we are going to be bigger and better next year. I personally would like to see more gay organizations participate and more ethnic food counters. Now we are off the San Francisco to their "Stonewall 20" Gay Day Parade. I will get back to you on that later in this column . . . At Joseph's T&C, July 30, Emperor Paul and Empress Stacey present: Amanda Fox, Miss Gay California. A show, this is a big one. July 16 at Joseph's starting at 7:30, The Moonstruck Theater Group in a mystery. Can't tell you anymore. It's a whodunnit . . . Listen up! July 8, Emperors Paul and Ralph are sponsoring a bus trip to Reno (overnite). We will be staying at the New Showboat Casino. \$75 per couple. For more info call Paul or Ralph. Another biggy . . . I think you might like this one too. July 16, The Emperor and Empress, Imperial Barge Trip on the Delta. \$30 donation. Check with your majesties for more info. Remember: No Diving! . . . At the Townhouse, a benefit for Hope House & Saga-3, called "Get down with Motown", July 20, 8 PM. \$5 . . . Beau's is closed for two weeks to get a face lift inside and out . . . Every third Wed, bingo at the Merk . . . July 16, Imperial Yard Sale at Meta & Kevins' (this is a first) house. Check with Meta or Kevin for more info . . . The Incredible Edible is still turning out those great meals on the patio . . . The Breakfast Club & The Round Table at the Western is still very active . . . Faces continues those cabaret shows. They are great. Buffalo Club has a busy schedule every week. Stop by & check it out . . . The Wreck Room is still packing them in for the Pigout . . . Well, I have just returned from 16th anniversary bus trip to SF Gay Day Parade. And what a celebration it was. Imagine if you can a crowd of three hundred thousand people watching 20,000 participate in a parade. Gay men & lesbians, heterosexuals took to the street of SF. It was a day to behold. Made one real proud. The parade opened with hundreds of leather-talking "butch" here honey. This was just the beginning. There were gay cowboys, our ever loving Sisters Of Perpetual Indulgence, plus 12 veterans from the original Stonewall riots in NY.

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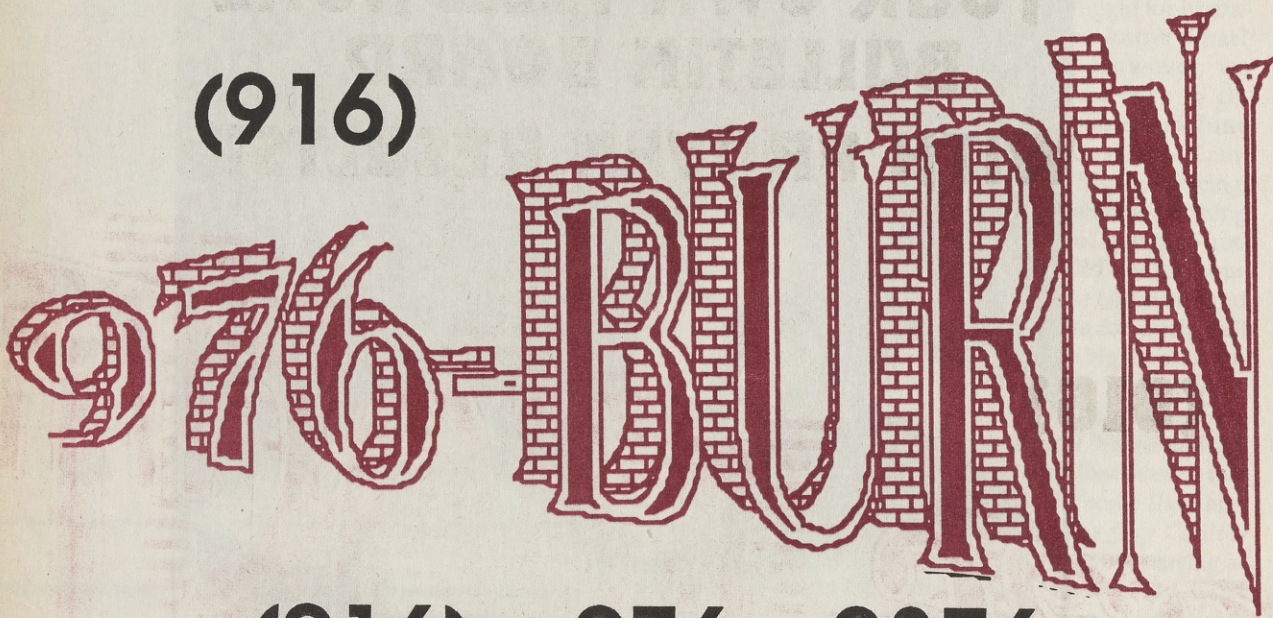
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Patlar, July 1989, Page Twenty-three

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CHEFS, WAITERS, COCKTAIL waiters and waitresses wanted. Contact Joseph's Town & Country, Sacramento, (916) 646-4153.

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For more information, write PATLAR, P O box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822 or telephone (916) 391-9755

WANTED: Volunteers and underwriters for Visionz, Sacramento's Gay & Lesbian Television Magazine. Visionz 2128 El Camino, Box 113, Sacramento, CA 95821. Phone (916) 641-0704.

MALE BODYBUILDERS wanted for artist's plaster impressions. Send info and photo. Rate 50.00 an hour. Reply to Fred Charles, 8176 Chenin Blanc Lane, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. (916) 966-4563. [97JS]

MASSAGE

KNEADING HANDS MASSAGE, Jeff M. Ramos, C.M.T. (916) 446-0605. [91EME]

BODY RUB, reasonable rates. Greg (916) 443-4173. [96ME]

EXPERIENCE THE INTANGIBLE: Hands, head, heart--Logan. (916) 441-1810. [97ME]

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ESQUIRE MODELS, Male escort service. Will travel. Massages available. By appointment. (916) 920-9109. [94 ET]

PERSONAL

HAIRY MEN/admirers: New/hot nat'l. adlistings. Info \$3: Hair, 59 W. 10 St., NY, NY 10011. [98PL]

GWM, 30s, seeking monogamous lover 27-39, non-smoker, likes outdoors (916) 922-4081. [97PL]

ATTRACTIVE BLACK female, professional, working way out of closet. Peaceful, healthy, monogamous relationship. No drugs. PO Box 221045, Sacramento, CA 95822. [97PL]

KINDER, GENTLER GUY, hairy, goodlooking, needs similar younger guys for more than once encounters. Write Patlar Ad 7-01, The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

NICE LOOKING chubby bottom wants to meet grown up ethnic men top or bottom for friendship. Top for Safe Sex. Write to: A1, PO Box 255306, Sacramento, CA 95865 [06PL]

GLAD TO BE GAY? GM, many interests which include outdoors and causes. Have mainstream job. Moustache, fair complexion, good looking. Looking for GM with social conscience, intelligence, energy, and perspective who contribute to the gay community. Write Patlar Ad 3-09, c/o Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

KNEADING HANDS MASSAGE

JEFF M. RAMOS, C.M.T.
(916) 446-0605

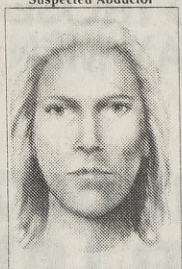
Affordable Rates For People Living With AIDS

Reward! Kidnapped! Reward! Stranger Abduction



Michaela Joy Garech
D.O.B. 11-11-80 Age 11-12
Hair: Blond, partial
Eyes: Blue
Height: 5'0"
Weight: 80 lbs.

Michaela is a blonde, 11-year-old girl with blue eyes and a friendly smile. She is missing from her home in Hayward, California on November 19, 1988.



Suspect's Description:

Age: 30-40
Hair: Dark, wavy
Eyes: Brown
Height: 5'6"
Weight: 150 lbs.

Vehicle: A dark-colored sedan, possibly a Ford Taurus or similar, with a dark blue or black paint.

Date of Occurrence: November 19, 1988 Time: 10:15 a.m.
If You Have Information Regarding This Abducted Child, Please Call
Hayward Police Dept. (800) 222-3999 Or San Francisco FBI (415) 553-7400

Police Services - City of Dublin

MISSING!



ILENE MISHELLOFF

D.O.B.: 3-12-75 Eyes: Brown
Age: 13 Height: 5'3"
Hair: Brown Weight: 115 lbs.

Braces on teeth
Case Number: 89-D-0252



Ilene was last seen on Amador Valley Blvd. about 2:30 p.m., Monday, January 30, 1989. She was wearing a charcoal gray pullover polo sweater, a horizontally striped pink and gray skirt, black low-top keds, and carrying a dark blue backpack.

NCIC Number: M-342301497

If you have any information regarding this missing child, please call the Dublin Police Services at: (415) 829-0566 or 1-800-635-6306 or the FBI (415) 553-7400

KIDNAPPED STRANGER ABDUCTION



MISSING SINCE JUNE 3, 1988

AMBER SWARTZ-GARCIA
\$40,000 REWARD

For information leading to Amber's safe return

LAST KNOWN DESCRIPTION:

White, Female 8 years old - D.O.B. 8-19-80

Height: 4 feet tall Hair: Blonde

Weight: approximately 62 lbs. Eyes: Blue

Hair style and/or color may be different than photo; teeth have grown in by now & most likely are crooked

Amber suffers from migraine headaches, which cause loss of balance and vomiting. She has a hearing impairment and was not wearing her hearing aid when kidnapped; however, she is able to communicate.

She sucks her thumb when she's tired or nervous. Amber was last seen jumping rope near her home in Pinole, California on June 3, 1988.

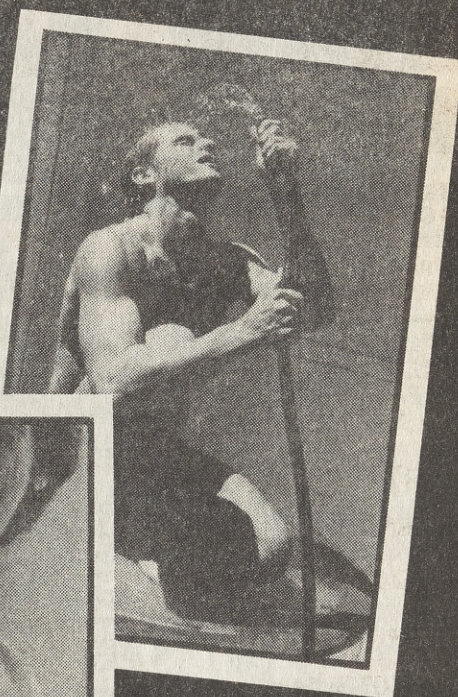
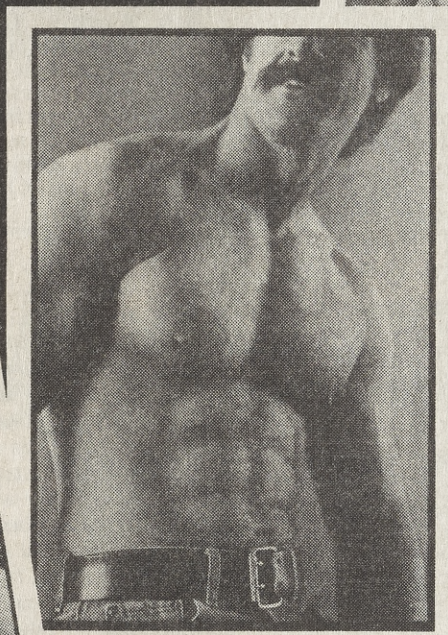
If you have any information about Amber, please call:
HOT LINE: (415) 724-9066
TOLL FREE: 800-541-0777
or **DIAL 911**

Refer to: Case #88-1501 - NCIC #M304421740

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Patlar, July 1989, Page Twenty-sev

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James J. Suguitan, editor

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(619) 323-0552

GWM, affectionate, sincere, early 40s, 6' 150#, looking to meet someone similar, 35-45 for a monogamous, loving relationship as a lover or a friend. Write Patlar Ad P1 146, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

WELL TANNED "white bottom" guy, needs masterful attention. For revealing photo, send SASE to: Ken, Box 19792, Sacramento, CA 95819. [911PL]

IF YOU ARE a transsexual, pre-operative transsexual, or female impersonator and want to meet nice men, join America's only free organization for gals like you--National Female Impersonator/Transsexual Contact Service, Philip Salem, Seattle Gay News, 704 East Pike Street, Seattle, WA 98122 or call (206) 329-TVTS. [91EPL]

ARE YOU OUT THERE? What do you really think about when you hear the word friendship? Would you like to have a special friend, a buddy, a companion. Someone to experience life's opportunities and challenges with, exchange ideas and share daily activities with? Are you masculine and do you fit in a straight crowd, easy going, considerate, honest, adventuresome and fun, perhaps lonely but not desperate, healthy, physically fit 21-35 years old, employed or student who has a positive outlook on life? Are you still there? I'm a w/m, 40ish, 5'11", 165, brown-silver hair, brown eyes, moustache, dry sense of humor, masculine, somewhat shy, sincere. I do have very pleasant looks and hope you do also. I enjoy outdoor activities, walking, music, photography, cars, cuddling and sex. I like to participate in life. I cherish strong principles, attractiveness, intelligence, monogamy, good personal hygiene. I'm into safe sex. I'm basically seeking quality friendship and someone who cares. Desiring it will lead to something nice. Are you still out there? I am here. To contact me, write Patlar ad 5-01, c/o The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

LONELY LADY looking for same. Write Patlar PL-145, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822. [99PL]

ARE YOU OUT THERE? A delicate male, little body hair, somewhat effeminate, passive in making love, top in sex. Must enjoy this hairy chested muscular man, and be eager to please, both in and out of bed. Age, income, endowment are unimportant; integrity is. Monogamous, relocatable only. Dark skin a plus. I'm earthy, vulnerable, and warm. 5'11", #190, "Rancher" type, and easy to know. Bud, PO Box 62, Woodland, CA 95695. ALL ANSWERED!!!! [91EPL]

GWM, mid-aged, seeks fun-loving younger guy with serious side for friendship, company, possible relationship. I like sparkling eyes, mischievous grins, outdoors, quiet cuddling, sunsets. I value honesty, compassion, caring, intelligence, open-mindedness. I'm a great dad who needs a son to care for/about. If you think you might "fit the bill" write to: Patlar Ad 6-02, The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

OLD, FAT, MEAN & GROUCHY GWM looking for male who will tolerate my disposition in exchange for real good sex. Write Patlar Ad-7-03, The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

PATLAR'S
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SPECIAL AD
WITH BORDER

GAY LADY, looking for relationship with oriental lady between 30-45 years old in Sacramento area. Write: Patlar PL-145, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822. [99PL]

LOOKING FOR A GUY who is not into bars and drugs but one who has a sincere and honest desire for a one-to-one relationship. If building a good home life is your goal and you are in your 20s, 30s or 40s, seeking a caring, loving reliable guy late 40s early 50s, write, describe yourself and your hopes. Picture OK but not required. Reply to Patlar Ad 4, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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PROFESSIONAL, monogamous, and masculine GWM couple, ages 24 & 28, seeks lesbian couple for friendship & anticipation & activities outside the gay bars and nightlife. Write Patlar PL-148, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822. [97PL]

RELATIONSHIP WANTED No more flakes! Are you a cute gay man 35ish to 40ish, cheerful, slim with his act together? Do you enjoy beaches, dining out, and movies? Do you have a sincere interest in forming a permanent monogamous relationship? I'm 40ish, an early riser, a nice man. Are you a nice man too? If so, write Patlar Ad 3-01, c/o Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

ONE GOOD MAN is all I need. GWM, handsome, intelligent, mature, enjoys conversation, outdoor activities, books, romance and attractive company. Write Patlar AD 7-02, The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

ORAL SLAVE WANTED with the right attitude, into leather, must be over 30, over 5'10", smooth swimmer's body, defined pecs. Prefer perfection if at all possible. Write Patlar Ad 7-02, The Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

MEXICAN/ASIAN SOUGHT by GWM 53, 5'11", 190#, hazel, brown, with a broad hairy chest. Seeking small build, dark skin, unshaggy type. No smoke/drugs, monogamous, sincere, relocatable only. Photo/letter to Bud, PO Box 62, Woodland, CA 95695 (all answered). [91EPL]

GWM--searching for same--18-35 for meeting & possibly more--call anytime--(916) 421-0542. Ask for Jon. [910PL]

GWM, 27, athletic, lean & tall, UCD student, likes to meet health conscious GM (18-30) for long-term partnership. Room for rent. Will answer your letter & photo. Write to Patlar, PL-139, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822. [98 PL]

GOOD LOOKING PHOTO MODEL wanted for private collection. Prefer clean shaven, short, 18-24, hairy legs. Send photo and description to Bill, PO Box 8096, Woodland, CA 95695 [01PL]

RENTALS

FURNISHED ROOM with private bath in quiet Davis 2/2 home for young male non-smoker; kitchen and laundry facilities, pool: \$270--no lease. Call (916) 756-7820. [99RS]

STUDIO APT., nice, clean, quiet. Nice area of Sacto. non-smoker & non drinker. Util. included in rent. \$350 mo. (916) 452-0769.

HAWAIIAN oceanfront kauai condo. Pool, spa, tennis, rent by day, week, month. Owners, Tom & Clark. (916) 927-0792. [96RS]

ROOM & BOARD near downtown Sacramento. Old home--nice, quiet, clean. No smokers, drinkers, or druggers. Util included in rent, meals & laundry facilities. (916) 452-0769.

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If you're looking for a friendship or a serious relationship...Bars, supermarkets and phone lines are NOT the place to find one. There is now a better answer for gay men.

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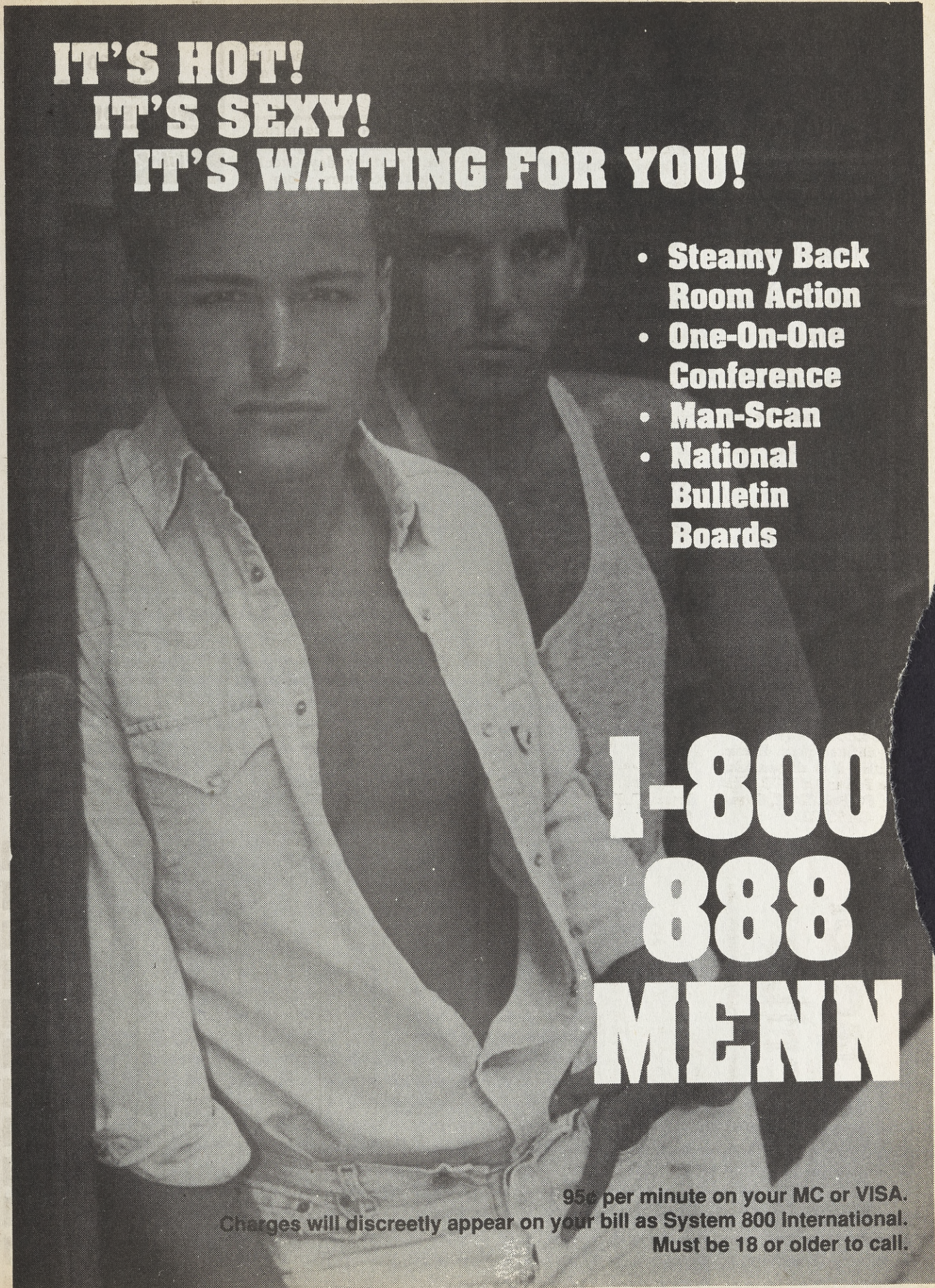
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